

THE APPROACHING CONFLICT.

From this distance the writhings in official circles in Honolulu appear to be chiefly for the purpose of gaining time. In the Capitol building there is a sparring for wind that grows tiresome and would be intolerable did it not augur more festive operations later on. Every duty performed by any of the heads of departments excepting the Auditor and Treasurer is done in the light of political expediency. More thought is being given to the political breezes a year hence than to the practical needs of the hour.

Secretary Carter finds his seat in a saddle and is doing his utmost to ride in such a manner that his horsemanship will be applauded from Kailua to Washington D. C. He doesn't care much what happens, so he produces the desired effect in certain quarters. Henry E. Cooper would chuckle if Carter could only be unhorsed. Their paths converge. There will be little fun equal to that we shall have when the collision takes place. Meanwhile they will continue to spar for advantage.

The example is contagious. The Attorney General goes in for pyrotechnics and works the oldest gag known among those who have played for applause. Governor Dole serene still, observes the formation of the thunder clouds around his throne. He will pass serenely, nay perchance, majestically from the official scene, the forum of his achievements and the valley of his failures. But the passing will be obscured by the strenuousness of the aspirants who are struggling to be in the line of succession.

It is stated on good authority that Hilo will have hotel adequate to her needs and palatial enough to satisfy her most distinguished guests and critics. The owners of the Hilo Hotel are ready to fix it up to suit the demands of Hilo. Already responsible business men have signified their willingness to join others in the scheme to put the Hotel on its feet. The opportunity should not be allowed to escape.

COMMISSIONER SARGENT is a modest man, judging from his interviews in the Honolulu newspapers. He is out for information and of course expects to be duly elated with the charms of Hawaii. Mr. Sargent came to Hilo. You will be welcome. And we have here, both information and charm in wholesale quantities.

THE wholesale arrests and convictions of municipal officers in St. Louis and Minneapolis might be repeated in Hawaii, providing the officials here are guilty and further providing that the Attorney General will take lessons from the conscientious and sensible course of City Attorney Folk of St. Louis.

In the matter of subscriptions for the Fourth of July celebrations, Hilo merchants will be more liberal this year than ever before. They have never been slow when called on to "dig" and this year the occasion will find them equal to it.

DID you notice how the Editor of the Hawaii Herald screamed at the Hilo Electric Franchise bill and then how he screamed at Governor Dole for not signing it? Governor Dole will probably conclude that it is folly to attempt to please Mr. Stacker.

SHOULD China and Russia at last effect a working Alliance the two Empires would represent an incalculable sum of force in international affairs.

THE Laupahoehoe politicians and the meteor were all too swift and brilliant to be photographed by the Herald's Century Kodak.

FOXY GRANDPA AGAIN.

Attorney General L. A. Andrews makes an excellent "Foxy Grandpa" and A. P. Taylor and E. C. Peters do the stunt of the "kids" most delightfully.

It has been sometime since the people of Hawaii have been favored with such delightful amateur comedy so realistically sandwiched with farce, as was given by the Attorney General and his two boys in the gamblers bribery fake. "Kid" Peters was given \$6000 a month to wink at gambling. "Foxy Grandpa," the Attorney General and "Kid" Taylor hid themselves in a closet while "Kid" Peters chewed the rag with Qung Kai the alleged agent of a millionaire gambling concern. "Kid" Taylor took the conversation down in shorthand and was able to write a story that pleased the city editor of the Advertiser.

The opera bouffe performance shows that "Kid" Taylor knows how to work Foxy Grandpa when news is scarce.

If Paul Jarrett of Puna knew the number of voters who are discussing his merits for the office of Sheriff of the County of East Hawaii, he would almost be compelled to consider it a call.

ONE would naturally infer that the editor of the Herald could use the word "arraignment" advisedly.

DELAY EXPLAINED.

One of the most interesting features of the latest information regarding the fire claims payments made public today is the fact that the certified schedule of claims is still in the hands of the Governor and Secretary Carter. According to published reports this schedule was promised to be ready about ten days ago. One of the first statements given out by Treasury Agent MacLennan was the very plain assertion that he could do nothing toward paying out the fire claims money until this schedule was furnished. Why the schedule should have been held up in the Secretary's office all this time is beyond the conception of ordinary business minds. No official of this Territory can pay out this money or establish the terms on which the bonds shall be placed. The whole problem of payment is in the hands of the Agent acting under instructions from the United States Treasurer. When he has the material with which to work the payment operations will begin to move and not till then.

The situation today indicates that the delays have been due largely to the error of the Territorial Secretary in assuming to be a more important factor than was justified. There is no necessity for the Secretary or Governor's office to take time prating the claims. This business will be done independently by the Treasury Agent when the certified schedules are received. Mr. MacLennan has repeatedly said that he could do nothing till he first received the certified schedule also that if claimants would take all the bonds, he would issue them, otherwise he would be obliged to give all claimants their pro rata of cash. This is now and has been the status of the fire claims payments since the day of Mr. MacLennan's arrival, and will continue to be until he gets necessary documents from Territorial officers.

It is so now, as it has been, up to Secretary Carter and Governor Dole to furnish the Treasury Agent with the documents supposed to have been completed ten days ago. Efforts to form hui for taking up bonds are doubtless backed by good intentions but this should not be allowed to check the simple business process which will get the million in coin into circulation.—Evening Bulletin.

About Koa Lumber.

An interesting case was brought before Judge Hapai this week in which the parties are J. S. Rickard of Laupahoehoe vs. W. S. Terry. The action arose out of a sale to W. S. Terry of \$100 worth of koa lumber, which Mr. Rickard claims as bailee for Sam Parker. LeBlond & Smith appear for the plaintiff and Wise & Ross for defendant. The complaint was met by a demurrer filed by Mr. Ross claiming that the petition was defective in that it did not set forth the facts necessary to show that the plaintiff was actually bailee. The point is one on which there are no decisions.

HILO HOTEL MAY OPEN.

Spreckels' Proposition Favorably Received by Hilo People.

Hilo will have a hotel running before the Fourth of July. That is to say the Hilo Hotel will be opened and ready to receive and care for guests before our big celebration, providing Hilo people see fit to embrace the opportunity now offered.

L. Severance, agent for the Spreckels, has been authorized to make extensive repairs and improvements in the Hilo Hotel and to offer it to responsible parties for hotel purposes. The offer is now being considered by the merchants and business men of Hilo. A manager for the hotel, providing the deal is accepted, is already in view, and if all goes well, Hilo will not long be without a first-class hotel. It is proposed to run the hotel without a bar, and to properly carry out present plans it is thought a capital of \$10,000 will be ample. One prime consideration in the movement to open the hotel is that all the new furnishings, all the new equipment and the provisions to be purchased by the manager shall be bought of local houses.

The owners of the hotel property are willing to put it in ship shape and make any reasonable alterations. The movement is well under way to form a local association to accept the offer.

LIGHT ON HISTORY.

So far the resurrected vessels of Montojo's fleet show that little execution was done at the battle of Manila bay by Dewey's guns. The hulls of the once-sunken ships are not badly damaged and it is shown that they were sunk by the opening of valves to prevent their falling into the hands of the enemy and perhaps to give the noble Dons an excuse for premature desertion which would satisfy the national pride. These discoveries recall the surprising withdrawal of Dewey's fleet in the midst of the action of May 1, 1898, "for breakfast," as the dispatches of the time said. But no fighting commander ever stops a battle for a meal. It was plain that there was some other cause; and this has often been stated by Mr. Stickney of the New York Herald, a former naval officer who was on the bridge with Dewey during the battle, as the discovery by the Commodore of the fact that his fire was doing small damage to the enemy. He withdrew to "take account of stock." The writer has heard Mr. Stickney say that he asked Dewey what explanation of the move he should make in his press dispatches? "Any except the true one," was the bluff reply. Hence the "breakfast" story which the Herald first published. It will be remembered that Dewey, when he returned to the fight got in closer. It was then the Spanish ships were scuttled.—Advertiser.

Found the Meteor.

Honolulu, May 7.—Pursuer D. L. Conkling of the steamer Mauna Loa, which arrived from Hawaii and Maui ports this noon, is able to supply details and accurate information regarding the much-commented-on meteor which was seen on Hawaii last week. That the meteor was not a "pipe-dream" is shown by the fact that several thousand pounds of substantial meteor has been found in Kau.

While the Mauna Loa was at Kau, Conkling received a telephone message from Deputy Assessor W. P. Fennel of Kau that a native named Kailimai had discovered a meteor lying up in the mountains. The meteor was examined but was still too hot to be removed. It was estimated that it weighed between two and three thousand pounds.

Another valuable find was also made in Kau last week by a native named Iosepa, who, while up in the mountains, found a spear which is said to have belonged to the great Kamehameha I. The finder is said to have wanted to sell his find for \$50.

The Hague, May 9.—The Japanese house tax differences have been referred to The Hague tribunal for arbitration. These cases grow out of a dispute over the extra-territorial rights of foreigners existing previous to Japan becoming a treaty nation.

HILO AND THE FOURTH.

Preparations for Grand Celebration Go Steadily Forward.

The Fourth of July celebration arrangements for Hilo are going forward with eclat. The committees are working together harmoniously and the outcome will be a program of diversions that should attract the whole of the patriotic people of Hawaii.

The Elks minstrel show is forging to the front as one of the star attractions of the occasion. Workmen under the direction of Elks have made a litter in the interior of Spreckels' hall, which would look foreboding if the plans did not show that out of the mess will come a well appointed opera house, suitable for the production of any play and especially designed to accommodate a minstrel show by the Elks. The stage will be completed in a few days and rehearsals in the hall will be commenced. The Hilo herd of Elks is developing some famous vocalists and their appearance before a Hilo audience will be an historic event.

The races, the cowboy congress, the athletic sports, the breaking of railroad sod and the barbecue are all having proper attention paid to them and will be pulled off on schedule time.

To make the season one of greater rejoicing, Rev. S. L. Desha has decided to give a luau Thursday evening, July 2, dedicating the new parsonage. He has been assured that Prince Cupid, Delegate elect to Congress; Mr. Iaukea and probably Prince David will be here on that occasion. The luau will be given on the Church grounds. It will be a splendid affair. Hawaiians from the entire Island will be present, and so good a time is promised them that they will not go home until after the Fourth of July.

In the language of the poet keep your eye on Hilo and come here to celebrate.

Twenty-Four Dollars a Year.

The following from the Postmaster's Advocate shows how Uncle Sam is guilty of occasional outbursts of niggardliness:

For the reason that no suitable person is available to take the office, the Fourth Assistant Postmaster General has discontinued the post office, at Keokea, Island of Maui, Hawaii. The postmaster, whose compensation was \$24 a year, resigned some time ago.

Could anyone be blamed for resigning a position paying \$2 a month? When millions of dollars are being expended for the extension of rural free delivery in the United States, and thousands of dollars are being wasted in doing it, is it not a sad commentary on the management of postal affairs that the Post Office Department cannot give the people of Keokea their mail for the simple reason that the Department cannot afford (?) to pay a sufficient amount to induce anyone, not even a washerwoman, to take the position at the rate of fifty cents a week?

Carried Mail Forty Years.

Felix Hugg, of Elgin, Ill., recently tendered his resignation as mail carrier between the station and post office. Mr. Hugg was born in France in 1823. He came to America in 1851 and was appointed to his present position during President Lincoln's term of office September 16, 1862, at a salary of \$25 a year.

Swiss Service as Model.

Swiss postal officials are to be employed to assist in the reorganization of the Japanese post office. The Swiss postal system is to be taken as a model.

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MIOWERA.....MAY 9	AORANGI.....MAY 6	MIOWERA.....JUNE 2	MOANA.....JUNE 1
AORANGI.....JUNE 6	MOANA.....JUNE 2		

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Proceeds for the benefit of the Hilo Boarding School New Buildings.



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